

Elimination of Duration of Status (D/S) Updates Webinar For F-1 Status Holders





WEBINAR LOGISTICS



Zoom Logistics and Q&A Format

→ **THIS WEBINAR MEETING IS NOT RECORDED**

Due to the nature of the policy changes it's implementation procedure being still developed by DHS, we will not record the webinar.

→ **SLIDE DECK AVAILABILITY**

This presentation deck will be available on the UCLA Dashew Center website following the webinar (on the Elimination of Durations of Status Page).

→ **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

We will address pre-submitted questions at the end of this presentation and open for live questions submitted in the Q&A chat feature.

AGENDA

→ ELIMINATION OF DURATION OF STATUS WEBINAR

1

Review of Immigration Concepts and Documents

Core overview of Nonimmigrant status, Form I-20, F-1 Visa, and I-94 admission record.

2

Regulatory Updates: Final Rule on Elimination of D/S

Key provisions of the DHS Final Rule establishing fixed Admit Until Dates (AUD).

3

Process Updates & Key Provisions

I-539 Extension of Stay form, travel re-entry rules, transition provisions.

4

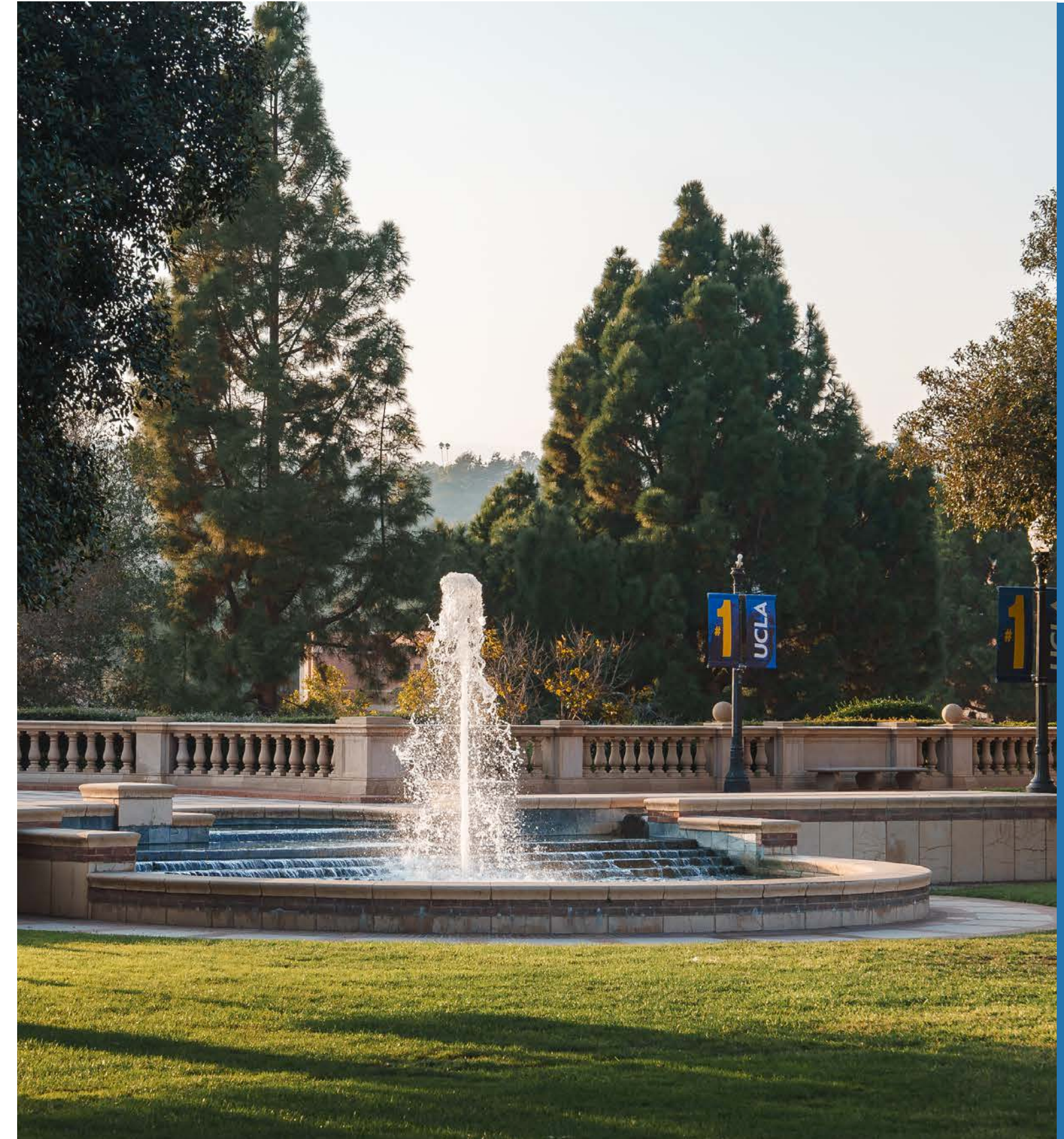
Resources & Next Steps

UCLA support, legal resources, and compliance tools.

5

Q&A Session

Addressing pre-submitted questions and participants questions.



Review of Immigration Concepts and Documents

For F-1 Status Holders



Defining Nonimmigrants



Nonimmigrant Status

Granted to individuals who are not U.S. citizens or U.S. Permanent Residents, admitted on a temporary basis for a specific purpose.



F-1 Visa Student

Designed to?
Classification (F-1) equals the authorized purpose of your visit to the U.S. and UCLA. In this case to engage in full-time study.



Category Regulations

Different rules apply to different visa categories. The new rule has similarities and key differences for F-1 students .

Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility)

- Issued by a U.S. government-approved institution, such as the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).
- Contains details on program start and end dates, degree objective, field of study, and funding sources.
- **SEVIS System:** U.S. government database that keeps track of F-1 enrollment, off-campus employment, arrival, and departure activities in the U.S.
- Managed by Designated School Official (DSOs) at the UCLA Dashew Center.



Essential Document Check

Always keep all historical original I-20 forms issued during your F-1 program for lifetime immigration records.



For: JOE BRUIN

 **U.S. Customs and Border Protection**
Securing America's Borders

Most Recent I-94

Note to employers, local, state or federal agency granting benefits:
Please visit the CBP I-94/I-95 Website and click on the tab for "Get Most Recent I-94/I-95" to perform a search for the applicant to confirm that the biographic and travel information displayed on this I-94/I-95 printout matches the "Get Most Recent I-94/I-95" returned results for this applicant. Reference the CBP I-94/I-95 Website FAQs.

Admission I-94 Record Number: 12345678910D2

Arrival/Issued Date: Month Year Day

Class of Admission: F1

Admit Until Date:

Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Last/Surname: Bruin

First (Given) Name: Joe

Birth Date: 1924 May 23

Document Number: Passport Number

Country of Citizenship: Country

► Effective April 26, 2013, DHS began automating the admission process. An alien lawfully admitted or paroled into the U.S. is no longer required to be in possession of a preprinted Form I-94/I-95. A record of admission printed from the CBP website constitutes a lawful record of admission. See 8 CFR § 1.4(d).

► What to do if someone requests your admission info: If an employer, local, state or federal agency requests admission information, present your admission (I-94/I-95) number along with any additional required documents requested by that employer or agency.

► For security, close your browser after retrieving your I-94/I-95 number.

► Nonimmigrant travelers departing the United States by land or private vessel can now use the CBP Link Mobile Application to report their departure. Please note that departure should only be reported after you have physically left the United States. If you departed by air or sea, your departure was likely recorded automatically.

I-94 Arrival Admission Record

- Issued electronically by U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) upon entry to the U.S.
- Official record indicating Class of Admission (e.g., F-1) and Admit Until Date (AUD).
- Historically noted as Duration of Status ("D/S") for F-1 students.
- Action Required: Review, download, and save your official I-94 admission record after each entry into the U.S.



Where to find it?
<https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/home>

What is Duration of Status (D/S)?

Historic D/S Practice

Public education is funded and regulated at the provincial and territorial levels, allowing flexibility while maintaining consistently high standards across the country.

- Program extensions were completed internally via SEVIS and Dashew Center issuing an extended I-20.
- No requirement to file a formal extension application with USCIS or leave the U.S. solely to extend status.
- Major Change: This long-standing D/S practice ends on **September 15, 2026**.



Most Recent I-94

Admission (I-94) Record Number : 51415565885

Most Recent Date of Entry: 2017 July 25

Class of Admission **F1**

Admit Until Date **D/S**

Details provided on the I-94 Information form:

Regulatory Updates

Elimination of Duration of Status (D/S) Final Rule



Allison Aquino-Silva
UCLA Student Legal Services

Our attorneys provide confidential legal counseling and assistance regarding a wide range of legal issues to all currently registered and enrolled UCLA students.

As a student, your initial consultation and follow up appointment are **FREE!**

OUR SERVICES:

- Tenant's Rights
- Immigration Law
- University Related Matters
- Employment Law
- Family Law
- Consumer Law
- Personal Injury

ZOOM OR IN-PERSON

A239 Murphy Hall, Box 951439
Los Angeles, California
90095-1439

Office Hours: 9 A.M. - 12 P.M.
1 P.M. - 5 P.M.



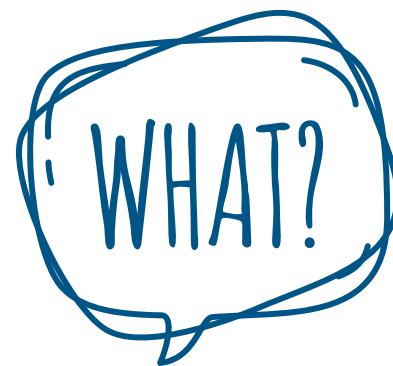
DHS Final Rule Overview

"Establishing a Fixed Time Period of Admission and an Extension of Stay Procedure for Nonimmigrant Academic Students, Exchange Visitors, and Media Representatives"



PUBLISHED BY DHS ON JULY 17, 2026 |
SCHEDULED IMPLEMENTATION:
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

It replaces flexible Duration of Status (D/S) with a date-certain Admit Until Date (AUD) capped at a maximum of 4 years per admission.



Key Provisions of the Final Rule

UPDATES

Fixed Admit Until Date (AUD) on I-94:

Specific expiration date assigned for nonimmigrants entering on or after 09/15/2026.

Transition Period:

Guidance for F-1 nonimmigrants present in the U.S. on 09/15/2026 with D/S I-94 admission records.

Extension of Stay (EOS):

Formal USCIS Form I-539 filing required for extensions beyond fixed AUD.

Academic Mobility

New restrictions on changes to educational program

Maximum Admission Limit:

Capped F-1 status end date, not to exceed 4 years (+ 30-day grace period).

International Travel Option:

Option to exit U.S., obtain updated visa (if needed), and re-enter to reset AUD.

Pending EOS Rules:

Terms governing work authorization and academic activities by USCIS processing.



Provision 1: Fixed Admit Until Date (AUD)

- Individuals entering or changing status to F on or after September 15, 2026 will receive a fixed date on their Form I-94 Arrival Record.
- AUD typically matches the I-20 program end date, plus a 30-day grace period **(up to max 4 years, plus a 30-day grace period)**
 - * Can be shorter, under discretion of CBP Officer. Passport Expiry can be a factor.
- Must depart the U.S. on or before AUD, unless a timely extension (Form I-539) is filed with USCIS
- Remaining in the U.S. beyond your fixed AUD without a pending/approved extension accrues unlawful presence.



Always inspect your I-94 after every U.S. entry. Report any date discrepancy immediately to your corresponding visa office.

Provision 2: Max Admission Period (4 Years)



Single admission period capped at maximum **4 years + 30 days**.



Important: Not a cap on overall F-1 program validity period.



Form I-20 **Program End Date** will continue to match your approved **UCLA Program** end date.



For F-1 students entering with an I-20 program duration that exceeds 4 years:

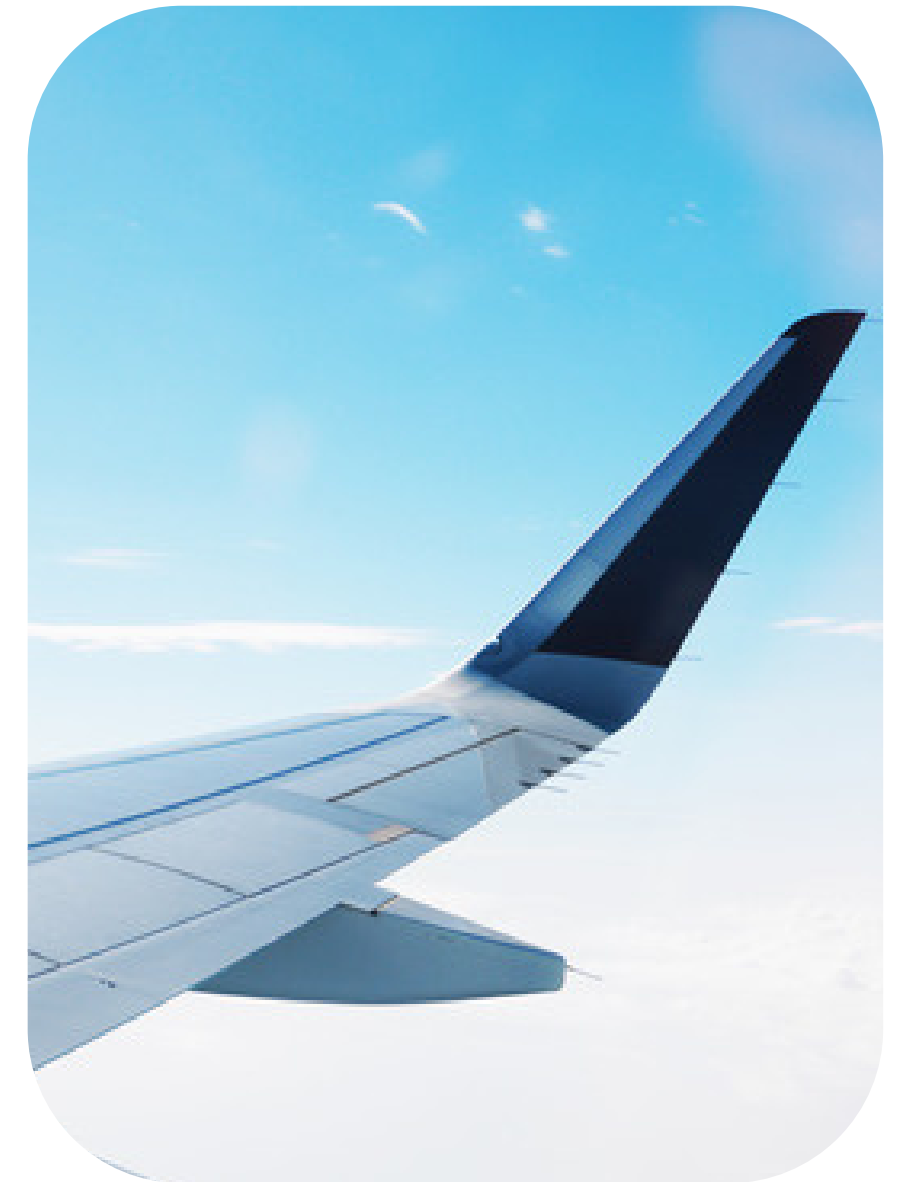
You must file Form I-539 or re-enter U.S. with I-20, before reaching your AUD

Provision 3: F-1 Students in the U.S. on/before 09/15/2026

TRANSITION GROUP RULES

F-1 Students present in the U.S. on/before September 15, 2026 with a Form I-94 providing D/S do not need to apply for a fixed AUD.

- You may remain in F-1 visa status until your current I-20 program end date, plus a 60-day grace period, not to exceed 11/14/2030 (4 years from Rule's effective date + 60 day departure period)
- To remain past your current I-20 end date, you must first extend your I-20, then either file Form I-539 Extension of Stay with USCIS, or travel internationally and re-enter the U.S.
- Any travel and re-entry on/after 09/15/2026 replaces your D/S Form I-94 with a fixed AUD Form I-94.



Provisions 4 & 5: Extending F Program On/After 09/15/2026



UCLA Academic Department Extension

Department extends academic appointment and submits request to corresponding visa office via **MyBruin International Portal**.



Dashew Center

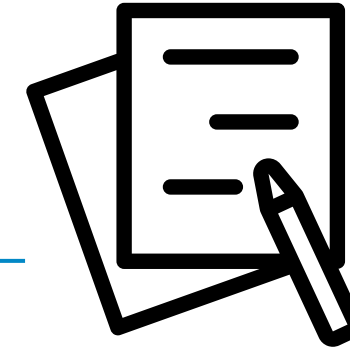
F-1 advisor issues extended Form I-20 updating SEVIS program dates.



Status Extension (Travel or Form I-539)

Student travels internationally prior to AUD and re-enters U.S., OR files Form I-539 with USCIS prior to AUD.

Extension of Admit Until Date (AUD)



UPDATES

Option A: Travel & Re-Entry

A

- Depart U.S. before current AUD expires.
- Renew F-1 visa stamp abroad if expired.
- Re-enter U.S. with extended I-20 to obtain updated AUD.

Option B: USCIS Form I-539 Filing*

B

- File Form I-539 online (\$420) or paper (\$470).
- Must be submitted to USCIS before current AUD expires.
- Includes biometrics check fee requirements if applicable.
- Premium Processing is not available.

The Dashew Center will not be able to assist with the submission of the I-539 EOS because it is a personal application filed directly with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) by the individual, not an institutional petition. F-1 students that are currently enrolled at UCLA may seek assistance at UCLA Student Legal Services, or work with an outside attorney for assistance.

Transferring F-1 Program On/After 09/15/2026



Transferring between institutions (e.g., UCLA to another U.S. university) updates SEVIS sponsor details.



If transfer extends total stay beyond current I-94 AUD, student must apply for EOS with USCIS or travel.



Timely SEVIS release and coordination between UCLA and new educational institution required prior to AUD expiration.

OPT and STEM OPT Extension On/After 09/15/2026



Must seek F-1 extension if OPT or STEM OPT is beyond AUD, unless eligible for provisions under the transition group.



Transition group: no F-1 extension required if application for post-completion OPT or STEM OPT on or before 03/18/2027

Consequences of Failing to Extend AUD



USCIS denies late Form I-539 filings unless extraordinary circumstances out of one's control are proven.



Automatic extension of employment authorization is void if filing occurs after AUD.

Critical Risks of Untimely Filing

Failing to submit an extension request before your I-94 AUD results in loss of F-1 status, accrual of unlawful presence, and termination of work authorization.

Provision 6: Work Authorization While EOS Pending



OPT to STEM OPT:

work authorization automatically extended up to 180 days.



On-campus employment:

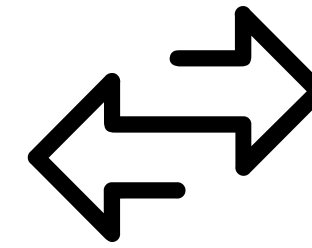
work authorization automatically extended up to 240 days.



Timely Filed:

filed while student had valid work authorization and before the program end date on the Form I-20, not the AUD

Provision 7: Academic Mobility



All F-1 Students

1. Cannot complete multiple courses of study on the same educational level
2. Upon completion of a program, cannot enroll in a program of study at the same or lower educational level



Undergraduate Students:

Cannot transfer schools or change educational objectives (i.e. level or major) during first academic year, unless SEVP approves an exception for extenuating circumstances



Graduate Students:

1. Cannot transfer schools at any point during their program of study, unless SEVP approves an exception for extenuating circumstances
2. Cannot change educational objectives (i.e. level or major). There is no exception for extenuating circumstances.



Extenuating Circumstances

1. Defined as “rare, exceptional events beyond the control of the school and the affected students that prevent a SEVP-certified school from continuing to provide the student’s approved course of study.”

Examples: school closure or merger; school’s prolonged inability to hold in-person classes due to a natural disaster, or other causes.

Resources & Support Services



Dashew Website Immigration Updates Page

Visit internationalcenter.ucla.edu for compliance updates and FAQ guides.



MyBruin International Portal

Submit I-20 extensions and travel signature requests online.



Dashew Center F-1 Counselors Direct Advising

internationalcenter.ucla.edu



UCLA Student Legal Services

Visit <https://studentlegal.ucla.edu/>



LA Area Attorney List

<https://internationalcenter.ucla.edu/resources/attorney-list>



Visa & Legal Resources Page

<https://internationalcenter.ucla.edu/resources/resource-guide/visa-and-legal-services>



Q & A Session

Contact Us:



**Elimination of Duration
of Status D/S Page**

